

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 6, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 92

Introduced by Assembly Member Donnelly

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Allen, Atkins, Beall, Bill Berryhill, Block, Blumenfield, Buchanan, Carter, Chesbro, Conway, Cook, Davis, Dickinson, Eng, Feuer, Fong, Beth Gaines, Galgiani, Garrick, Gatto, Grove, Hagman, Halderman, Harkey, Hill, Huffman, Jeffries, Jones, Ma, Mansoor, Miller, Morrell, Nestande, Nielsen, Olsen, Pan, Perea, John A. Pérez, Silva, Smyth, Solorio, Swanson, Valadao, and Wagner)

January 19, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 92—Relative to human trafficking.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 92, as amended, Donnelly. Human trafficking.

This resolution would recognize the month of January 2012, and each following January, as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, and it would recognize February 1, 2012, and each following February 1, as California's Free From Slavery Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama declared January 2011
- 2 National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month,
- 3 culminating in National Freedom Day on February 1, 2011; and
- 4 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama called "upon the People
- 5 of the United States to recognize the vital role we can play in

1 ending modern slavery” and that fighting this scourge is a shared
2 responsibility; and

3 WHEREAS, Our nation was founded upon the principle of
4 freedom, and we affirmed this principle with ratification of the
5 13th amendment that guaranteed people within our borders
6 protection from slavery; and

7 WHEREAS, Americans are committed to individual freedom
8 and will do all they can to help eliminate modern day slavery,
9 which includes human trafficking, early and forced marriage,
10 forced labor, bonded labor, and slavery by descent; and

11 WHEREAS, Beyond all differences of race, creed, or political
12 persuasion, Americans are one people who must face national
13 threats together, and while they now live with a heightened
14 awareness of human trafficking and other forms of modern day
15 slavery, they refuse to allow them to continue; and

16 WHEREAS, Human trafficking can occur in many forms. Sexual
17 slavery, involuntary domestic servitude, and child soldiering are
18 just a few of the abuses that men, women, and children are
19 subjected to; and

20 WHEREAS, The United States Department of State’s
21 “Trafficking in Person Report 2010” includes the United States in
22 its rankings for the first time in the report’s 10-year history showing
23 the United States as a growing magnet for traffickers to conduct
24 their illegal and inhumane business; and

25 WHEREAS, The Central Intelligence Agency estimated that
26 approximately 15,000 to 17,000 men, women, and children are
27 trafficked into the United States every year, making the United
28 States one of the top three trafficking destinations along with Japan
29 and Australia; and

30 WHEREAS, California is a prime destination for human
31 trafficking, along with other states including New York, Texas,
32 and Nevada; and

33 WHEREAS, California’s unique geography makes it a
34 particularly vulnerable location for human trafficking because of
35 its extensive international border, numerous ports and airports,
36 and overall large economy; and

37 WHEREAS, Apart from the harm that this crime causes its
38 victims, secondary consequences of human trafficking can severely
39 affect California communities. The link between human trafficking
40 and other criminal activities including, but not limited to, human

1 smuggling, drug trafficking, money laundering, and organized
2 crime, increases the potential for other violent crime. The United
3 States Department of State reports that the impact of human
4 trafficking on surrounding communities includes increased crime
5 and gang activity, child exploitation, public health problems, and
6 depressed wages; and

7 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes the vital role California
8 can play in preventing and one day ending modern slavery; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
11 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes January 2012,
12 and each following January, as the National Slavery and Human
13 Trafficking Prevention Month; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Legislature recognizes February 1, 2012,
15 and each following February 1, as California's Free From Slavery
16 Day, and calls upon all Californians to follow President Obama's
17 charge to "educate themselves about all forms of modern slavery
18 and the signs and consequences of human trafficking"; and be it
19 further

20 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
21 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.